



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

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July 29, 2009

NEWS RELEASE

United States Attorney Michael L. Levy announced today the filing of an indictment¹ against James Alberts, Eric Mushrush, Charlene Daley, Charles Silvani, Richard Roman, Kevin Kurowski, Chad Tellman, Nerissa Alberts, Daniel Smith and Joel Rodriguez, charging each of them with conspiracy to manufacture 1,000 or more marijuana plants, manufacture of, and aiding and abetting the manufacture of, 1,000 or more marijuana plants, and possession with intent to distribute, and aiding and abetting possession with intent to distribute of, 1,000 or more marijuana plants arising out of the establishment and operation of a marijuana grow house operation inside the warehouse located at 2310 N. American Street, in the Northern Liberties section of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In addition, James Alberts, Eric Mushrush and Charlene Daley are each charged with unlawfully maintaining a place for the manufacture of a controlled substance, specifically, marijuana, at the 2310 N. American Street warehouse.

According to the indictment, James Alberts established and maintained a marijuana grow house operation inside the warehouse at 2310 N. American Street, in order to manufacture marijuana for sale and distribution for profit. The indictment charges that Alberts hired and paid Eric Mushrush and Charlene Daley to provide daily care, watering and cultivation of more than 1,000 marijuana plants regularly growing and under cultivation at the warehouse at 2310 N. American Street. The indictment further states that Alberts established a marijuana plant growing and cultivation schedule at the warehouse under which, approximately every thirty days, from in or about March 2009 to on or about July 16, 2009, he directed workers that he hired and paid, including Eric Mushrush, Charlene Daley, Charles Silvani, Richard Roman, Kevin Kurowski, Chad Tellman, Nerissa Alberts, Daniel Smith and Joel Rodriguez, to conduct and carry out a harvest of all mature marijuana plants growing and under cultivation at the warehouse, in order to prepare multi-pound quantities of marijuana for sale and distribution in Philadelphia and elsewhere for profit. These workers, the indictment alleges, approximately every thirty days, appeared at, and gained entry to the warehouse in order to carry out a harvest of all mature marijuana plants under cultivation at the warehouse, and to process and package the marijuana for sale and distribution. It is charged that Alberts then obtained the processed and packaged marijuana which he sold and distributed to other persons in pound and multi-pound quantities for profit.

¹ An Indictment or Information is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

If convicted, the defendants face the following maximum penalties:

James Alberts - Life imprisonment, a mandatory minimum 10 year term of imprisonment, a multi-million dollar fine, 5 years supervised release up to lifetime supervised release.

Eric Mushrush - Life imprisonment, a mandatory minimum 10 year prison term, a multi-million dollar fine, 5 years supervised release up to lifetime supervised release.

Charlene Daley - Life imprisonment, a mandatory minimum 10 year prison term, a multi-million dollar fine, 5 years supervised release up to lifetime supervised release.

Charles Silvani - Life imprisonment, a mandatory minimum 10 year prison term, a multi-million dollar fine, 5 years supervised release up to lifetime supervised release.

Richard Roman - Life imprisonment, a mandatory minimum 10 year prison term, a multi-million dollar fine, 5 years supervised release up to lifetime supervised release.

Kevin Kurowski - Life imprisonment, a mandatory minimum 20 year prison term, a multi-million dollar fine, 10 years supervised release up to lifetime supervised release.

Chad Tellman - Life imprisonment, a mandatory minimum 10 year prison term, a multi-million dollar fine, 5 years supervised release up to lifetime supervised release.

Nerissa Alberts - Life imprisonment, a mandatory minimum 10 year prison term, a multi-million dollar fine, 5 years supervised release up to lifetime supervised release.

Daniel Smith - Life imprisonment, a mandatory minimum 10 year prison term, a multi-million dollar fine, 5 years supervised release up to lifetime supervised release.

Joel Rodriguez - Life imprisonment, a mandatory minimum 10 year prison term, a multi-million dollar fine, 5 years supervised release up to lifetime supervised release.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANTS

NAME	ADDRESS	YEAR OF BIRTH
JAMES ALBERTS	Philadelphia, PA	1972
ERIC MUSHRUSH	Philadelphia, PA	1979
CHARLENE DALEY	Philadelphia, PA	1976
CHARLES SILVANI	Howell, NJ	1974
RICHARD ROMAN	Philadelphia, PA	1984
KEVIN KUROWSKI	Jamesburg, NJ	1969
CHAD TELLMAN	Kennett Square, PA	1979
NERISSA ALBERTS	Howell, NJ	1982
DANIEL SMITH	Cinnaminson, NJ	1971
JOEL RODRIGUEZ	Philadelphia, PA	1977

The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration (“DEA”), and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph T. Labrum, III.

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